

WILDLIFE CHECK-IN WITH MARK PAVLOSKY JR:



Red-Cockaded Woodpecker. Photo by MPJ Wildlife.

Mark Pavlosky Jr. shared an update on the wildlife species at Stable View. Mark shared that there have been 136 species identified on the property this year including seven new ones.

Stable View and Mark have spent a lot of time on growing the population of the Red-Cockaded Woodpeckers. He said he started reviewing the property for the woodpeckers in 2017. He performed a baseline survey and then got Stable View into Safe Harbor. He explained, "Safe Harbor is an agreement private land owners make with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources that says that you recognize you have potential habitat or currently have Red-Cockaded Woodpeckers on the property. It kind of alleviates what they call take issues." Safe Harbor makes it possible for you to do things such as harvesting timber on your land as long as you are still providing habitats elsewhere on the land.

Mark went on to explain, "Once we got into Safe Harbor then we installed artificial cavities. They are the only woodpecker that requires a living tree to nest in. As managers we climb up into trees, cut a hole, and insert an artificial cavity so we can make an appropriate and suitable cluster for birds to move into." Within six months of Mark adding artificial cavities, a Red-Cockaded Woodpecker moved in. This bird came from Hitchcock Woods. Mark then moved three more birds: one more male and two females to join him. Now there are sixteen individuals on-site.